

Amendments to the Specification:

Replace paragraph [0115] with the following replacement paragraph:

[0115] Another suitable formulation is a protective dosage form that protects the protein for survival in the stomach and intestines until absorbed by the intestinal mucosa. Protective dosage forms for proteins are known in the art, and include enteric coatings and/or mucoadhesive polymer coatings. Exemplary Exemplary mucoadhesive polymer formulations include ethyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, Eudragit®, ~~carboxyvinyl~~ carboxyvinyl polymer, carbomer, and the like. A dosage form designed for administration to the stomach via ingestion for delivery of IFN τ in an active form to the intestinal tract, and particularly to the small intestine, is contemplated. Alternatively, IFN τ can be co-administered with protease inhibitors, stabilized with polymeric materials, or encapsulated in a lipid or polymer particle to offer some protection from the stomach and/or intestinal environment.